

# Exide Technologies, Vernon Public Meeting



Philip M. Fine, Ph.D.  
Asst. Deputy Executive Officer

## The SCAQMD



- Our agency, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), manages air pollution for all of Orange County and the urban portions of Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties.
- This area is 10,743 square miles and is home to about 40% of the population of California.

## Exide -Vernon

**Location:** Five miles S.E. of downtown Los Angeles,

**Established:** 1922

**Site:** 15 acres

**Facility size:** 220,000 ft.<sup>2</sup>

**Batteries recycled per day:** 23,000 to 41,000 batteries per day

**Area/Region Received from:** Alaska to Mexico border and west of the Rocky Mountains

**Manufacturing capacity:** 340 tons finished daily

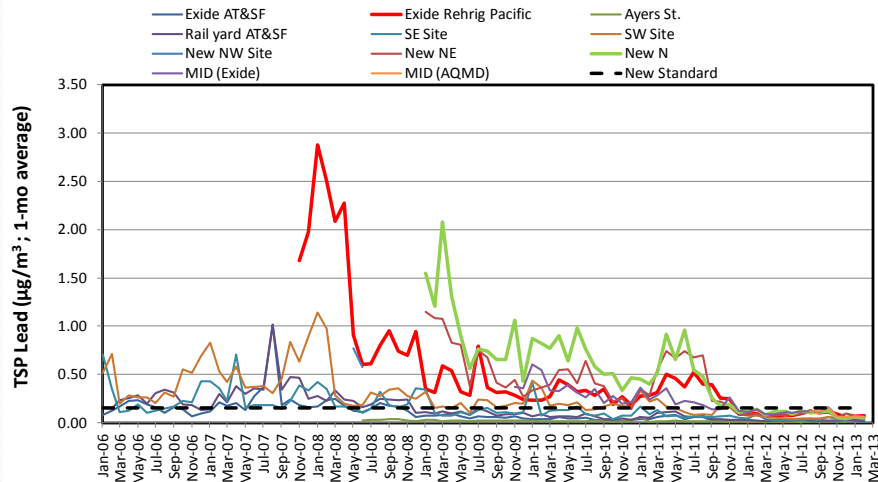
**Shifts:** 3 shifts / 7 days continuous operation

**Labor affiliations:** United Steelworkers of America

## Lead Emissions

- In 2007, elevated levels of lead detected in the air adjacent to Exide facility
- Led to a series of enforcement actions to reduce lead emissions
- Los Angeles County designated non-attainment for the federal lead standards due to the monitored levels
- New AQMD Rule 1420.1
- Significant modifications at facility
- As of January 2012, monitored levels are below the tighter federal limit (0.15 micrograms/m<sup>3</sup>, 3-month ave.)

## Ambient Lead Data



## Health Effects of Lead

- Cancer
  - US EPA classification: B2 (probable human carcinogen; inadequate human data, sufficient animal data)
- Non-Cancer Chronic (low concentration, long exposure)
  - Target organs: developmental, nervous, immune, kidney, blood, and reproductive systems
- Non-Cancer Acute (high concentration, short exposure)
  - Target organs: gastrointestinal, respiratory, skin, and eye systems

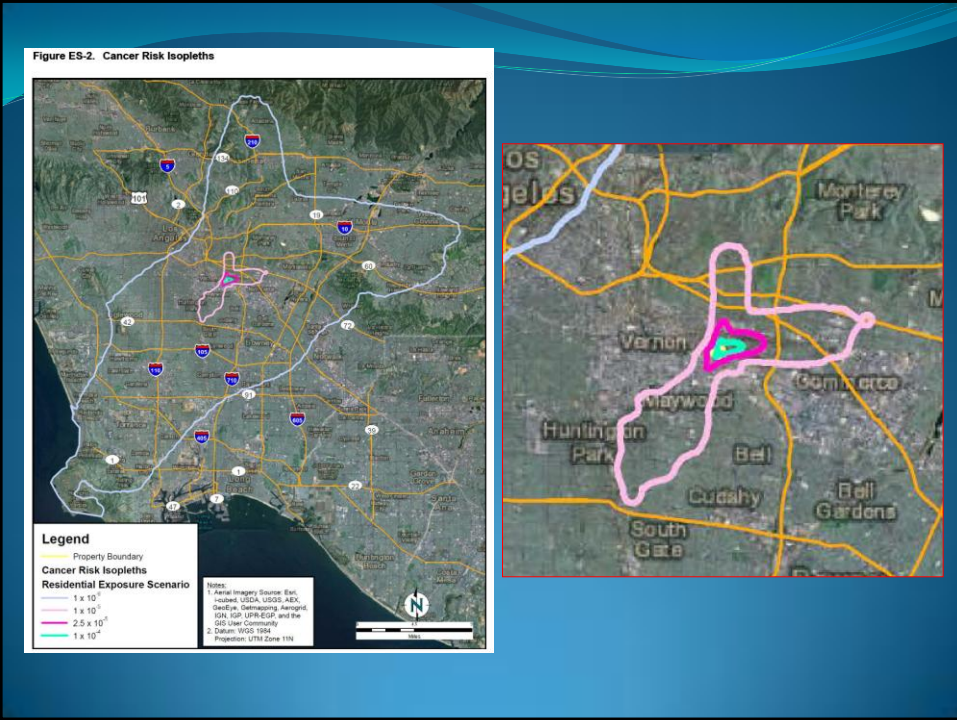
## Assembly Bill 2588

- In 1987, the California legislature adopted the Air Toxics "Hot Spots" Information and Assessment Act; also known as Assembly Bill 2588 (or AB2588)
- The goals of the Act are to:
  - collect facility's emissions data
  - identify localized impacts and health risks
  - notify affected individuals; and/or
  - reduce the risk
- Health Risk Assessment (HRA)
  - A study which analyzes the human health risks associated with daily operations of a facility
  - A computer model is used which incorporates data and conservative estimates to evaluate risk

## Exide HRA Summary

### Actions and Current Risk Reduction Requirements

	Cancer Risk			Non-Cancer Health Effects		
	Maximum Individual Worker	Maximum Individual Resident	Total Burden (worker & resident)	Worker Chronic (respiratory)	Resident Chronic (respiratory)	Acute (development)
Public Notice	required	required	not applicable	required	required	required
Risk Reduction	required	not required	required	required	not required	required
Actual Risk Reduction Benefit	~ 95%			~ 95%		

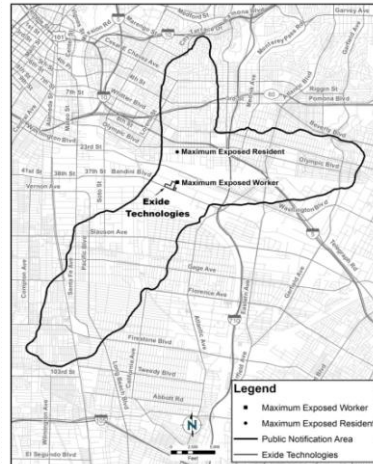


## Health Effects of Arsenic

- Cancer
  - US EPA classification: A (human carcinogen)
  - Inhalation: lung
  - Ingestion: lung, liver, kidney, bladder, and skin
- Non-Cancer Chronic (low concentration, long exposure)
  - Target organs: developmental, cardiovascular, nervous, respiratory, and skin systems
- Non-Cancer Acute (high concentration, short exposure)
  - Target organs: developmental, cardiovascular, and nervous systems

## Public Notification Process

- Identify the notification area as shown in map
- Distribute the public notice
  - ✓ over 100,000 addresses
  - ✓ 31 schools
- Distribute HRA to local libraries
  - ✓ 5 local libraries
  - ✓ available on website
- Conduct public meeting



## Public Meetings

- AB 2588 Public Meetings
  - Thursday, May 30 at Huntington Park Community Center; 10 a.m., 2 p.m., & 6 p.m.
  - Saturday, June 1 at Doubletree Hotel of Commerce; 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m., & 2 p.m.
- Other Community Meetings
  - Tuesday, June 4 at Resurrection Catholic Church; 6 p.m.
  - Wednesday, June 5 at City of Vernon Council Chamber; 4 p.m.

## DTSC Order for Temporary Suspension

April 24, 2013 - DTSC ordered a temporary suspension of facility operations

DTSC allegations as basis for suspension

1. March 5, 2013 Storm Sewer Inspection findings
  - ✓ Accumulation of semi-solid sludge materials and standing liquids,
  - ✓ Breaches in the pipelines,
  - ✓ Lack of fiberglass slip lining in the piping, and
  - ✓ Storm sewer system not within a required secondary containment.
2. SCAQMD-approved HRA

May 13, 2013 - Exide has challenged the DTSC order

June 3-5, 2013 - Administrative Hearing

## Ongoing and Next Steps

- Installed door over feed chute to blast furnace to better direct process exhaust gases to control devices
  - ✓ Preliminary source test results evaluated & additional testing required
- Install HEPA filter on blast furnace feed room bag house
- Submit Risk Reduction Plan before September 1
  - ✓ Subject to SCAQMD review and approval
- Annual public notice and annual progress report until Plan fully implemented
  - ✓ Success demonstrated by source tests and a HRA
- SCAQMD to consider additional requirements (regulations and/or permit conditions)